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AUTHOR Westerman, W. Scott, Jr.
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ABSTRACT

This study of 1993 Kansas National Merit Semifinalists (NMSFs) examines which colleges/universities students are attending during the fall of 1993 and provides related data concerning the chosen institutions. Information was gathered from 67 high schools concerning enrollments for 159 of the 169 NMSFs in the Kansas class of 1993. Data were compared to data from a previous study which determined students' university preferences. Results revealed that 32 percent of those who had expressed preferences actually enrolled in institutions which were not among their three earlier choices. A total of 37.5 percent of NMSFs enrolled in Kansas institutions, a slight reduction from the 38.1 percent who had listed Kansas colleges/universities among their preferences. The 159 NMSFs are enrolled in 68 different colleges and universities. Eleven institutions account for over half of the NMSFs. Forty-two percent of males chose Kansas institutions in contrast to 32 percent of females. Public colleges/universities were chosen by a majority of the NMSFs. Females chose private and religious institutions more frequently than did males. Of the 103 NMSFs who had earlier listed college/university preferences, 37.9 percent actually enrolled in their first choice schools, 18.4 percent in their second choices, and 11.7 percent in their third choices. (JDD)

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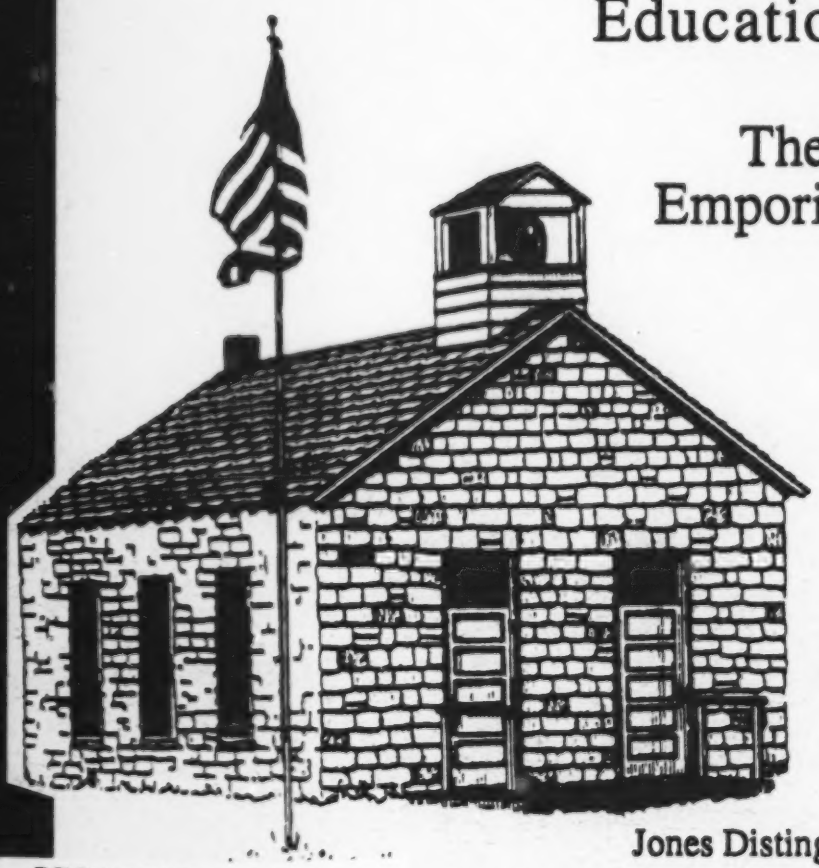
ED 368 138

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CHOICES KANSAS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Policy Analysis Paper No.2
Jones Institute for Educational Excellence

The Teachers College
Emporia State University



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November, 1993

W. Scott Westerman, Jr.
Jones Distinguished University Professor

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COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CHOICES
KANSAS NATIONAL MERIT
SEMIFINALISTS

THE CLASS OF 1993

A STUDY CONDUCTED BY

W. Scott Westerman, Jr.
Jones Distinguished University Professor 1992-93

Jones Institute for Educational Excellence
The Teachers College
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas

Colleges/University Choices
Kansas National Merit Semifinalists
The Class of 1993

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I. Introduction

This follow-up to a previously published comprehensive study of the 1993 Kansas National Merit Semifinalists (NMSFs)* is designed to answer the following question: Which colleges/universities are the 1993 NMSFs actually attending during the fall of 1993? In addition, this study provides related data concerning the chosen institutions: the frequency with which they have been selected, their locations, their types (i.e., public, private, religious), and their sizes. The differences in patterns between female (F) and male (M) respondents are also reported.

The information was provided by the high schools from which the NMSFs graduated. During September, 1993, sixty-seven of the 69 NMSFs' high schools reported the names of the colleges/universities which their NMSFs were actually attending. As a result, this report summarizes the college/university enrollments for 159 of the 169 NMSFs in the Kansas class of 1993. (The specific institutions are not known for two of the NMSFs, one high school preferring to report only "in-state" and "out-of-state" for its two students.) Of the remaining eight, one is deceased, three have chosen to spend this year in non-college activities, and four are unaccounted for at this time.

In the previous study, 113 of the 169 NMSFs completed a survey questionnaire during the first semester of their senior year. Among the 35 items to which they responded was the following: Please list in order of preference three universities you would like to attend. Forty-three (38.1%) listed a Kansas institution as either a first (14 or 12.4%), second (17 or 15.0%) or third preference (22 or 19.5%). (Totals exceed 43 and 38.1% because some students listed more than one Kansas institution among their three preferences.)

One hypothesis underlying this study was that the students' actual choices would be different from their stated preferences. For example, a student whose three preferences were listed as Harvard, Stanford and Yale might actually enroll somewhere else. An additional hypothesis was that the percentage of Kansas NMSFs actually enrolling in Kansas institutions would be greater than 38.1% when data were collected concerning all 169. (Fifty-six had not responded to the earlier survey.) Both of these hypotheses were influenced by information from the earlier study which revealed that 76.1% of the respondents reported that financial considerations would determine which colleges/universities they would actually attend.

Concerning the first hypothesis, 32% of those who had expressed preferences actually enrolled in institutions which were not among their three earlier choices. Concerning the second hypothesis (See Table 3), a total of 60 out of 160, or 37.5%, enrolled in Kansas institutions, a reduction from the 38.1% who in the previous study had listed Kansas colleges/universities among their preferences.

* Westerman, W. Scott, Jr. Kansas National Merit Semifinalists: The Class of 1993. Policy Analysis Paper No. 1, Jones Institute for Educational Excellence, The Teachers College, Emporia State University: April, 1993.

II. Findings

Of the 169 Kansas National Semifinalists in the Class of 1993, 159 are reported to be enrolled in 68 different colleges and universities distributed across 29 states and the District of Columbia. Forty-eight of these institutions are attended by one NMSF, nine by two, and eleven by three or more. (Table 1) The eleven institutions enrolling three or more account for 92 (57.8%) of the 159 NMSFs. (Table 2)

Nine different Kansas institutions were chosen by 60 (37.5%) of the NMSFs, including four Regents universities: University of Kansas - 27, Kansas State University - 24, Wichita State University - 2, and Pittsburg State University - 1. (Table 3) Forty-two males (42%) chose Kansas institutions in contrast to 18 (32%) of the females.

More than half (85 or 53.1%) of the NMSFs are attending institutions in Kansas or one of its neighboring states as follows: Kansas - 60, Missouri - 13, Oklahoma - 7, Nebraska - 4, and Colorado - 1. (Table 4)

Five states each attracted 5% or more of the NMSFs as follows: Kansas - 60 (37.5%), Missouri - 13 (8.1%), Texas - 10 (6.3%), Massachusetts - 9 (5.6%), and California - 8 (5%). These five states enrolled a total of 100, or 62.5% of the NMSFs. (Table 3)

Public colleges/universities were chosen by a majority (54.1%) of the NMSFs. Females chose private (33.3%) and religious (16.7%) institutions more frequently than did males (31.5% and 13.8%). (Table 5)

Fewer than ten percent (9.4%) of the NMSFs (13.4% female and 7% male) are attending institutions enrolling 2000 or less students, whereas 56.6% (53.3% female and 58.6% male) are attending institutions enrolling more than 15,000. (Tables 6 and 7)

Of the 103 NMSFs who in an earlier study listed college/university preferences, 37.9% actually enrolled in their first choice schools, 18.4% in their second choices, and 11.7% in their third choices. Nearly a third (32%) are attending schools which they did not list among their preferred colleges/universities. (Table 8)

TABLE #1
COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED
DURING THE 1993 FALL SESSION

(State abbreviations indicate location. Other abbreviations indicate affiliation:
Pub=Public, Pvt=Private, Rel=Religious)

	Female	Male	Total
Baptist Bible College (MO) (Rel)	1		1
Baylor University (TX) (Rel)		1	1
Benedictine College (KS) (Rel)	1		1
Bethel College (KS) (Rel)		1	1
Brigham Young University (UT) (Rel)		2	2
Brown University (RI) (Pvt)	1		1
Bryn Mawr College (PA) (Pvt)	1		1
California, University of Berkeley (CA) (Pub)	1		1
Carnegie-Mellon University (PA) (Pvt)		1	1
Central Missouri State University (MO) (Pub)		1	1
Chicago, University of (IL) (Pvt)		1	1
Colorado State University (CO) (Pub)	1		1
Columbia University (NY) (Pvt)	1		1
Cornell University (NY) (Pub/Pvt)	1		1
Creighton University (NE) (Rel)	2	2	4
Dartmouth College (NH) (Pvt)	1	2	3
Dayton, University of (OH) (Rel)	1		1
Drake University (IA) (Pvt)	1		1
Duke University (NC) (Pvt)		1	1
Emory University (GA) (Rel)	1		1
Georgetown University (DC) (Rel)		1	1
George Washington University (DC) (Pvt)		1	1

Georgia Institute of Technology (GA) (Pub)		1	1
Grinnell College (IA) (Pvt)	1	1	2
Harding University (AR) (Rel)		1	1
Harvard University (MA) (Pvt)	1	4	5
Harvey Mudd College (CA) (Pvt)		2	2
Houston, University of (TX) (Pub)	1	1	2
Illinois, University of (IL) (Pub)	1	1	2
Indiana Wesleyan University (IN) (Rel)		1	1
Iowa State University (IA) (Pub)	1		1
John Brown University (AR) (Rel)	1		1
Kansas, University of (KS) (Pub)	7	20	27
Kansas State University (KS) (Pub)	7	17	24
LeTourneau College (TX) (Rel)		1	1
Macalester College (MN) (Pvt)		1	1
Maine, University of (ME) (Pub)		1	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MA) (Pvt)		1	1
Miami, University of (FL) (Pvt)	1		1
Michigan, University of (MI) (Pub)	1		1
Mid-America Nazarene College (KS) (Rel)	1		1
Missouri, University of - Rolla (MO) (Pub)		1	1
Missouri Southern State College (MO) (Pub)	1		1
Northwest Missouri State University (MO) (Pub)		1	1
Northwestern University (IL) (Pvt)	2	1	3
Notre Dame, University of (IN) (Rel)		1	1
Oklahoma, University of (OK) (Pub)	2	4	6
Oklahoma State University (OK) (Pub)		1	1
Pittsburg State University (KS) (Pub)		1	1

Princeton University (NJ) (Pvt)	2		2
Rice University (TX) (Pvt)	2	3	5
Southwest Baptist University (MO) (Rel)		1	1
Southern California, University of (CA) (Pvt)		1	1
Southwest Missouri State University (MO) (Pub)	4	3	7
Stanford University (CA) (Pvt)	1	3	4
Swarthmore College (PA) (Pvt)	1		1
Tabor College (KS) (Rel)	1		1
Trinity University (TX) (Pvt)	1		1
Tufts University (MA) (Pvt)		1	1
United States Naval Academy (MD) (Pub)		2	2
Valparaiso University (IN) (Rel)	1		1
Vassar College (NY) (Pvt)		1	1
Washburn University (KS) (Pub)	1		1
Wheaton College (IL) (Pvt)		1	1
Wichita State University (KS) (Pub)		2	2
Williams College (MA) (Pvt)	1	1	2
Wisconsin, University of (WI) (Pub)	1		1
Yale University (CT) (Pvt)	2	2	4
Totals 68	60	99	159
Other			
Out-of-State		1	1
In-State		1	1
"Not enrolled this year"	1		1
Foreign exchange student		1	1
Africa		1	1
Deceased		1	1
No information	1	3	4
Grand totals	62	107	169

TABLE #2
COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED
BY THREE OR MORE

	F	M	Total
Kansas, University of	7	20	27
Kansas State University	7	17	24
Southwest Missouri State University	4	3	7
Oklahoma, University of	2	4	6
Harvard University	1	4	5
Rice University	2	3	5
Creighton University	2	2	4
Stanford University	1	3	4
Yale University	2	2	4
Dartmouth College	1	2	3
Northwestern University	2	1	3
	31	61	92

TABLE #3
COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED ACCORDING TO STATES

	Female	Male	Total
Arkansas			
Harding University		1	1
John Brown University	1	1	2
	1	2	3 (1.9%)
California			
California, University of Berkeley	1		1
Harvey Mudd College		2	2
Southern California, University of		1	1
Stanford University	1	3	4
	2	6	8 (5.0%)
Colorado			
Colorado State University	1		1 (.6%)
Connecticut			
Yale University	2	2	4 (2.5%)
District of Columbia			
Georgetown University		1	1
George Washington University		1	1
		2	2 (1.3%)
Florida			
Miami, University of	1		1 (.6%)
Georgia			
Emory University	1		1
Georgia Institute of Technology	—	1	1
	1	1	2 (1.3%)
Illinois			
Chicago, University of		1	1
Illinois, University of	1	1	2
Northwestern, University of	2	1	3
Wheaton College	—	1	1
	3	4	7 (4.4%)
Indiana			
Indiana Wesleyan University		1	1
Notre Dame, University of		1	1
Valparaiso University	1	—	1
	1	2	3 (1.9%)

Iowa			
Drake University	1		1
Grinnell College	1	1	2
Iowa State University	1	_	1
	3	1	4 (2.5%)
Kansas			
Benedictine College	1		1
Bethel College		1	1
Kansas, University of	7	20	27
Kansas State University	7	17	24
Mid-American Nazarene College	1		1
Pittsburg State University		1	1
Tabor College	1		1
Washburn University	1		1
Wichita State University		2	2
In-State	_	1	1
	18	42	60 (37.5%)
Maine			
Maine, University of		1	1 (.6%)
Maryland			
United States Naval Academy		2	2 (1.3%)
Massachusetts			
Harvard University	1	4	5
Massachusetts Institute of Technology		1	1
Tufts University		1	1
Williams College	1	1	2
	2	7	9 (5.6%)
Michigan			
Michigan, University of	1		1 (.6%)
Minnesota			
Macalester College		1	1 (.6%)
Missouri			
Baptist Bible College	1		1
Central Missouri State University		1	1
Missouri, University of Rolla		1	1
Missouri Southern State College	1		1
Northwest Missouri State University		1	1
Southwest Baptist University		1	1
Southwest Missouri State University	4	3	7
	6	7	13 (8.1%)
Nebraska			
Creighton University	2	2	4 (2.5%)
New Hampshire			
Dartmouth College	1	2	3 (1.9%)

New Jersey			
Princeton University	2		2 (1.3%)
New York			
Columbia University	1		1
Cornell University	1		1
Vassar College	_	1	1
	2	1	3 (1.9%)
North Carolina			
Duke		1	1 (.6%)
Ohio			
Dayton, University of	1		1 (.6%)
Oklahoma			
Oklahoma, University of	2	4	6
Oklahoma State University	_	1	1
	2	5	7 (4.4%)
Pennsylvania			
Bryn Mawr College	1		1
Carnegie - Mellon University		1	1
Swarthmore College	1	_	1
	2	1	3 (1.9%)
Rhode Island			
Brown University	1		1 (.6%)
Texas			
Baylor University		1	1
Houston, University of	1	1	2
LeTourneau College		1	1
Rice University	2	3	5
Trinity University	1	_	1
	4	6	10 (6.3%)
Utah			
Brigham Young University		2	2 (1.3%)
Wisconsin			
Wisconsin, University of	1	—	1 (.6%)
	60	100	160 (100.2%)
Other			
Out-of-State		1	1
"Not enrolled this year"	1		1
Foreign exchange student		1	1
Africa		1	1
Deceased		1	1
No information	1	3	4
	2	7	9
Grand Totals	62	107	169

TABLE #4
SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE IN COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES IN KANSAS AND SURROUNDING STATES

	F	M	Total
Kansas	18	42	60
Colorado	1		1
Nebraska	2	2	4
Missouri	6	7	13
Oklahoma	2	5	7
	29	56	85

TABLE #5
COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED
ACCORDING TO TYPES

Types	# of Institutions	Females	Males	Totals
Public	22	29 (48.3%)	57 (57.6%)	86 (54.1%)
Private/Secular	27	20 (33.3)	30 (30.3)	50 (31.5)
Private/Public	1	1 (1.7)		1 (.6)
Private/Religious	18	10 (16.7)	12 (12.1)	22 (13.8)
	68	60 (100)	99 (100)	159 (100)

TABLE #6
COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED ACCORDING TO SIZE

0-1,000	F	M	TOTAL	
Tabor College (Rel) (436)*	1		1	
Bethel College (Rel) (577)		1	1	
Harvey Mudd College (Pvt) (621)	-	2	2	
	1	3	4	(2.5%)
1,001-2,000				
John Brown University (Rel) (1,044)	1	1	2	
Baptist Bible College (Rel) (1,089)	1		1	
Benedictine College (Rel) (1,130)	1		1	
Grinnell College (Pvt) (1,291)	1	1	2	
Swarthmore College (Pvt) (1,304)	1		1	
Mid-American Nazarene College (Rel) (1,357)	1		1	
LeTourneau College (Rel) (1,570)		1	1	
Macalaster College (Pvt) (1,858)		1	1	
Bryn Mawr College (Pvt) (1,881)	1	-	1	
	7	4	11	(6.9%)
2,001-5,000				
Williams College (Pvt) (2,006)	1	1	2	
Vassar College (Pvt) (2,345)		1	1	
Wheaton College (Pvt) (2,430)		1	1	
Trinity University (Pvt) (2,573)	1		1	
Indiana Wesleyan University (Rel) (2,740)		1	1	
Southwest Baptist University (Rel) (2,921)		1	1	
Harding University (Rel) (3,400)		1	1	
Valparaiso University (Rel) (3,782)	1		1	
Dartmouth College (Pvt) (3,853)	1	2	3	
Rice University (Pvt) (4,216)	2	3	5	
United States Naval Academy (Pub) (4,452)	-	2	2	
	6	13	19	(12%)
5,001-10,000				
Missouri, University of-Rolla (Pub) (5,582)		1	1	
Missouri Southern State College (Pub) (6,011)	1		1	
Northwest Missouri State University (Pub) (6,021)		1	1	
Creighton University (Rel) (6,140)	2	2	4	
Pittsburg State University (Pub) (6,166)		1	1	
Princeton University (Pvt) (6,466)	2		2	
Brown University (Pvt) (6,532)	1		1	
Washburn University (Pub) (6,626)	1		1	
Carnegie Mellon University (Pvt) (7,083)		1	1	
Tufts University (Pvt) (7,960)		1	1	

* Enrollment data taken from the American Council on Education. American Universities and Colleges, 14th Edition, Walter de Gruyter: New York - Berlin, 1992.

Drake University (Pvt) (8,096)	1		1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Pvt) (9,536)		1	1
Emory University (Rel) (9,823)	1	-	1
	9	8	17 (10.7%)
10,001-15,000			
Notre Dame, University of (Rel) (10,085)		1	1
Yale University (Pvt) (10,815)	2	2	4
Chicago, University of (Pvt) (10,952)		1	1
Dayton, University of (Rel) (11,173)	1		1
Duke University (Pvt) (11,460)		1	1
Central Missouri State Univesity (Pub) (11,621)		1	1
Baylor University (Rel) (11,810)		1	1
Georgetown University (Rel) (11,861)		1	1
Georgia Institute of Technology (Pub) (12,090)		1	1
Maine, University of (Pub) (12,804)		1	1
Miami, University of (Pvt) (14,245)	1		1
Stanford University (Pvt) (14,723)	1	3	4
	5	13	18 (11.3%)
15,001-20,000			
Northwestern University (Pvt) (15,473)	2	1	3
Wichita State University (Pub) (15,779)		2	2
Columbia University (Pvt) (17,523)	1		1
Harvard University (Pvt) (18,437)	1	4	5
Cornell University (Pub/Pvt) (18,567)	1		1
George Washington University (Pvt) (19,210)		1	1
Oklahoma State University (Pub) (19,476)		1	1
Southwest Missouri State University (Pub) (19,504)	4	3	7
Oklahoma, University of (Pub) (19,560)	2	4	6
	11	16	27 (17%)
20,001-30,000			
Kansas State University (Pub) (20,712)	7	17	24
Colorado State University (Pub) (20,967)	1		1
Iowa State University (Pub) (25,250)	1		1
Southern California, University of (Pvt) (28,374)		1	1
Kansas, University of (Pub) (29,150)	7	20	27
California, University of-Berkeley (Pub) (29,674)	1	—	1
	17	38	55 (34.6%)
30,000 +			
Brigham Young University (Rel) (32,025)		2	2
Houston, University of (Pub) (33,607)	1	1	2
Illinois, University of (Pub) (36,139)	1	1	2
Michigan, University of (Pub) (36,316)	1		1
Wisconsin, University of (Pub) (43,196)	1	-	1
	4	4	8 (5%)
Totals	60	99	159 (100%)

TABLE #7
SUMMARY OF
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SIZE CHOICES
BY GENDER

	F	M	Total
0 - 1,000	1 (1.7%)	3 (3.0%)	4 (2.5%)
1,001 - 2,000	7 (11.7)	4 (4.0)	11 (6.9)
2,001 - 5,000	6 (10.0)	13 (13.1)	19 (12.0)
5,001 - 10,000	9 (15.0)	8 (8.1)	17 (10.7)
10,001 - 15,000	5 (8.3)	13 (13.1)	18 (11.3)
15,001 - 20,000	11 (18.3)	16 (16.2)	27 (17.0)
20,001 - 30,000	17 (28.3)	38 (38.4)	55 (34.6)
30,001+	4 (6.7)	4 (4.0)	8 (5.0)
	60 (100)	99 (99.9)	159 (100)

TABLE #8
FREQUENCY WITH WHICH PREFERRED COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES BECAME ACTUAL CHOICES

	F	M	TOTAL
1st Preference	18 (40%)	21 (36.2%)	39 (37.9%)
2nd Preference	9 (20)	10 (17.2)	19 (18.4)
3rd Preference	4 (8.9)	8 (13.8)	12 (11.7)
Other	14 (31.1)	19 (32.8)	33 (32)
	45 (100)	58 (100)	103 (100)